Express Mail Label No. EV 682313313 US Dated: 18 March 20 NGC O PCT/PTO 18 MAY 2006

Docket No.: BGI-159US

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE AS DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)

In re Patent Application of:

Oskar Zelder et al.

International Application No.: PCT/IB2004/004463

International Filing Date: December 17, 2004

Application No.: NEW APPLICATION Art Unit: N/A

Filed: CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHODS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A FINE CHEMICAL BY FERMENTATION

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.